**Areas affected in recent earthquake**

76. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas affected by the recent earthquake, state-wise;

(b) the number of persons died in the earthquake; state-wise;

(c) whether Union Government are taking steps for the rehabilitation of the persons affected by the earthquake;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether Union Government propose to provide assistance to States in constructing quake proof houses/school buildings in quake prone areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) An earthquake of an intensity of 7.4 on the Richter scale occurred on 8th October, 2005 at 0920 hours. The epicenter of the Earthquake was in Pakistan, 55 KMs west-North West of Muzaffarabad. Tremors of the earthquake were felt in several States of Northern India which *inter-alia* includes the States of Jammu & kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttranchal.

The State of Jammu & Kashmir was the worst affected. AS per provisional figures received from the State Governments of J & K and Punjab, 1336 persons are reported to have lost their lives in Jammu and Kashmir and 2 persons in the Punjab. No other State has reported loss of human lives due to this earthquake.

(c) to (g) As per the existing Scheme for financing Relief Expenditure, the State Government concerned is the first responder to the disaster situation and is primarily responsible for undertaking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural disasters and for distribution of relief material on the ground. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support, wherever necessary. The State Governments are required to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the calamity affected areas out of the

corpus of the State Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), in accordance with approved items and norms of assistance. The CRF is contributed by the Government of India and the State Govt. in the ratio of 3:1. Additional financial assistance is also provided from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of a calamity of a severe nature, after following the laid down procedure.

The State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has informed that they have undertaken necessary relief and rehabilitation measures in the affected areas which include provision of tents, temporary shelter, foodgrains, woolen clothes, utensils, medicines etc. Financial assistance has also been provided for repair/reconstruction of damaged houses, ex-gratia to the families of deceased etc.

The State Government has announced a financial assistance of Rs. 1.00 lakh each of the affected families, whose houses were fully damaged, for the reconstruction of their damaged houses on their own. The distribution of first installment of 40% of the said amount i.e.Rs.40,000/- to each such beneficiary had already started with effect from 19.10.2005.

Apart from above, the State Government has also decided to construct 22,000 Temporary Shelter Units (TSUs) (15,000 in Uri and 7,000 in Tangdhar) for those families whose houses have been fully damaged. Some of these shelters for the hapless families are proposed to be constructed by the Government, while the remaining shelters are being constructed by the affected families themselves for which the State Government has decided to provide assistance of Rs. 30,000. The State Government has also announced an incentive of Rs.5000/- to those families who are able to construct TSUs before November 30,2005. Engineers and masons have also been trained for assisting the people in the construction of earthquake proof houses/buildings.

The Government of India has provide all necessary financial and logistical support required by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. This includes the supply of tents, tarpaulin sheets, sleeping bags, mattresses, blankets, woolens, medicines etc. In addition, Government of India has also provided CGI sheets for construction of temporary shelters.

The Union Ministry of Urban Development has proposed to construct 130 Community Halls in 130 locations (Uri-66, Tangdhar-38 and Poonch-26. Each Community Hall has the capacity to accommodate 150-200

persons. The Ministry of Urban Development has also constructed Building Demonstration Centers at Uri and Tangdhar for disseminating knowledge on best construction practices in earthquake prone areas.

As a part of the overall rehabilitation effort, various agencies of the Government of India have adopted 22 villages, wherein these agencies propose to construct shelters and provide other amenities to meet the short-term and long-term needs of the affected people. Technical guidance is also being provided for the construction of earthquake resistance structures.

The Emergency Support line Central Ministries/Departments *viz.* Health and Family Welfare, Food and Public Distribution, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Urban Development, Drinking Water Supply, Telecommunication, Road Transport & Highways, Animal Husbandry, Women & Child Development, Power, Civil Aviation, Railways etc. have also provided the necessary relief and rehabilitation assistance, as required by the State Government.

**Loss of lives and properties during floods and natural disasters**

77. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of loss of lives and property in the floods and natural disasters during and after this year monsoon;

(b) what is the estimated expenditure towards relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

(c) how Government propose to ascertain the immediate delivery of *ex-gratia* payment to the affected families;

(d) whether Government have cognizance of the media reports on the inability of local civic agencies to contain the effects of disaster and in providing relief and rehabilitation; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken to equip and train the local civil agencies?